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Donald C. BrittinghamDirector – Wireless/Spectrum Policy
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January 22, 2003

Ms. Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325 Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation

IB Docket No. 01-185; ET Docket No. 95-18; ET Docket No. 00-258

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Today, the attached letter was sent to Chairman Powell. Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(1) of the Commission's Rules, an electronic copy of this letter is being filed for inclusion in the above-referenced dockets.

Sincerely,

Donald Brittingham

cc: Bryan Tramont

John Branscome

Sam Feder

Paul Margie

Barry Ohlson

Jennifer Warren

Tom Sugrue

Ed Thomas

Rick Engelman

Bruce Franca

Kathleen Ham

Marty Liebman

Cathy Seidel

Tom Stanley

Richard J. Lynch Executive Vice President & CTO



Verizon Wireless 180 Washington Valley Road Bedminster, New Jersey 07921 Phone 908 306-5000

January 22, 2003

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 – 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 01-185; ET Docket No. 95-18

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing regarding an important policy matter that is currently being addressed by the Commission. The outcome will affect the operations of wireless operators like Verizon Wireless.

The Commission is considering whether to allow Mobile Satellite Service ("MSS") licensees the ability to provide terrestrial services like those provided by Verizon Wireless. My company has already filed its objection to such an action on the grounds that it would be inconsistent with the law and sound spectrum management policy. However, the potential harm created by such an action goes beyond a policy debate. Without adequate technical limitations, the operations of MSS mobile transmitters in bands that are close to the PCS band will cause harmful interference to PCS operations.

Verizon Wireless and other wireless operators deal with interference issues on a regular basis. In fact, due to the very small separations between the PCS mobile transmit band (1850-1910 MHz) and the PCS mobile receive band (1930-1990 MHz), there is a potential for PCS mobile transmitters to interfere into PCS mobile receivers. As a result, the wireless industry has developed technical specifications to reduce the potential for harmful interference. PCS phones used by Verizon Wireless customers are built in accordance with the industry standard TIA/EIA-IS95-B. This standard specifies that spurious emissions located anywhere in the mobile receive band between 1930 and 1990 MHz must be less than --80 dBm, measured in a 1.23 MHz resolution bandwidth. This same standard should apply to MSS operators that provide terrestrial wireless services.

In addition to the potential for out-of-band emissions from MSS phones to cause harmful interference, PCS phones will not be able to sufficiently reject in-band MSS signals without adequate frequency separation. This need for separation between transmit and receive frequencies is reflected in the current 20 MHz gap between the PCS transmit and receiver bands. The Commission should ensure that it provides adequate frequency separations between PCS and MSS terrestrial operations.

In the event that the Commission authorizes MSS licenses to provide terrestrial service, I urge you to ensure that such operations do not cause harmful interference to existing PCS services. This harmful interference can be avoided by imposing a -80 dBm emission limit on MSS terrestrial operations and by ensuring that such operations are not permitted below 2010 MHz. This will ensure that MSS operations comply with the same interference standards followed by the wireless industry and will avoid harmful interference to PCS customers.

Sincerely,

cc:

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Kevin Martin